

Historical Floods: Potomac River near Little Falls (Washington DC), Maryland

Latitude: 38.95

Flood Stage: 10 ft

Period of Record: 1930-Present

Last Flood: 5/17/2014

Longitude: -77.128

Number of Floods: 92

Date of Flood	Crest (ft)	Streamflow (cfs)	Category	Code
5/14/1932	15.25	168,000	Major	none
4/19/1933	10.15	86,700	Minor	none
4/22/1933	12.80	127,000	Moderate	none
8/25/1933	10.57	92,700	Minor	none
12/2/1934	13.50	139,000	Moderate	none
2/17/1936	10.37	45,000	Minor	none
2/27/1936	14.69	132,000	Major	none
3/13/1936	11.16	106,000	Minor	none
3/19/1936	28.10	484,000	Major	none
1/24/1937	10.50	94,400	Minor	none
2/23/1937	10.58	96,000	Minor	none
4/28/1937	23.30	347,000	Major	none
8/27/1937	10.10	88,300	Minor	none
10/30/1937	15.62	181,000	Major	none
2/5/1939	12.60	129,000	Moderate	none
4/22/1940	11.29	107,000	Minor	none
5/24/1942	13.17	139,000	Moderate	none
10/17/1942	26.88	447,000	Major	none
12/31/1942	13.15	139,000	Moderate	none
9/20/1945	13.88	138,000	Moderate	none
2/16/1948	10.69	75,000	Minor	none

4/16/1948	10.69	97,300	Minor	none
6/20/1949	13.00	135,000	Moderate	none
7/19/1949	10.26	91,300	Minor	none
2/3/1950	10.01	77,200	Minor	none
12/6/1950	13.85	140,000	Moderate	none
12/9/1950	12.48	117,000	Moderate	none
6/15/1951	12.09	110,000	Moderate	none
3/13/1952	11.95	108,000	Minor	none
4/29/1952	14.17	148,000	Major	none
11/23/1952	13.76	140,000	Moderate	none
3/26/1953	11.44	99,100	Minor	none
3/3/1954	12.47	116,000	Moderate	none
10/17/1954	13.30	131,000	Moderate	none
3/23/1955	11.47	99,500	Minor	none
8/20/1955	17.60	216,000	Major	none
4/9/1956	10.46	68,600	Minor	none
7/21/1956	10.75	72,500	Minor	none
2/12/1957	11.10	74,300	Minor	none
4/7/1957	11.40	78,600	Minor	none
3/1/1958	10.18	49,000	Minor	none
3/29/1958	11.19	67,200	Minor	none

Drainage Area: 11560 sq mi

Gage Datum: 37.2 ft MSL

Potomac Basin

County of Gage: Montgomery
County of Forecast Point: Montgomery

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5/7/1958	12.02	82,100	Moderate	none
4/1/1960	12.29	102,000	Moderate	none
4/6/1960	13.35	119,000	Moderate	none
5/10/1960	13.66	124,000	Moderate	none
2/21/1961	13.15	116,000	Moderate	none
2/27/1961	12.23	101,000	Moderate	none
4/14/1961	11.71	92,600	Minor	none
4/18/1961	10.37	73,200	Minor	none
3/1/1962	11.05	82,800	Minor	none
3/14/1962	11.42	88,300	Minor	none
3/23/1962	13.43	120,000	Moderate	none
3/7/1963	12.87	111,000	Moderate	none
3/15/1963	11.64	91,600	Minor	none
3/21/1963	13.91	128,000	Moderate	none
3/6/1964	11.85	94,800	Minor	none
5/1/1964	11.59	90,800	Minor	none
3/9/1967	11.48	147,000	Minor	none
6/24/1972	22.03	359,000	Major	none
12/28/1973	10.36	120,000	Minor	none
3/21/1975	12.23	166,000	Moderate	none
9/27/1975	13.39	195,000	Moderate	none

10/11/1976	13.18	208,000	Moderate	none
1/28/1978	10.47	145,000	Minor	none
3/16/1978	10.83	153,000	Minor	none
2/26/1979	13.12	206,000	Moderate	none
2/16/1984	13.73	222,000	Moderate	none
3/30/1984	10.74	151,000	Minor	none
11/7/1985	17.99	317,000	Major	none
3/16/1986	10.09	136,000	Minor	none
4/19/1987	11.41	167,000	Minor	none
3/6/1993	12.35	189,000	Moderate	none
3/25/1993	10.16	138,000	Minor	none
4/18/1993	10.55	147,000	Minor	none
11/29/1993	10.09	136,000	Minor	none
3/30/1994	10.37	142,000	Minor	none
1/21/1996	19.29	347,000	Major	none
9/8/1996	17.84	314,000	Major	none
1/10/1998	10.43	144,000	Minor	none
3/22/1998	10.79	152,000	Minor	none
9/21/2003	11.44	167,000	Minor	none
12/12/2003	10.87	154,000	Minor	none
3/30/2005	10.28	140,000	Minor	none

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5/13/2008	10.04	135,000	Minor	none
1/27/2010	10.98	157,000	Minor	none
3/15/2010	12.82	199,000	Moderate	none
3/12/2011	10.88	154,000	Minor	none
4/18/2011	11.69	173,000	Minor	none
5/19/2011	11.40	166,000	Minor	none
10/31/2012	10.33	141,000	Minor	none
5/17/2014	11.70	162,000	Minor	none

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Date of Flood

Crest (ft)

Streamflow (cfs)

Category

Code

-9999 signifies missing data

MARFC Codes

Code Description

- C1 Crest information looks unreliable and incomplete and not used in frequency calculations. Some of the floods are based on current flood stage and nearby gage information.
- C2 Crest information looks reliable despite potential problems. This data was used in frequency calculations.
- C3 Crest height estimated by the USGS.
- C4 Crest height is from the National Weather Service.
- C5 Crest height affected by backwater.
- C6 Crest occurred at a previous flood stage that is lower than the current flood stage. The crests below the new flood stage are not used in flood frequency calculations.
- C7 Crest from USGS yearly peak and/or date is different than the crest we provide. In many cases MARFC uses crest based on backwater or ice effects. Crest month or day of occurrence has been estimated by The Middle Atlantic River Forecast Center usually based on nearby gage information.
- C8 Crest date (day) in the month is unknown.
- C9 Flow is an estimate.
- F1 Flow affected by regulation or diversion and in some cases to an unknown degree.
- F2 Flow effected by snow-melt, ice jam or debris jam break up.
- F3 Flow affected by dam failure.
- F4 Flow - All or part of the record affected by urbanization, mining, agricultural changes, channelization or other factors.
- F5 Gage height at a different site and/or datum.
- G1 Gage is not an official USGS gage with crests provided by the NWS. Crest information looks unreliable and incomplete and not used in flood frequency calculations.
- G2 Gage datum changed during this year.

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